Illegal Nexus between NDTV and Doordarshan

2292. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has given huge amount to New Delhi Television illegally in the name of purchasing foreign clippings for the programme 'World This Week';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by the Government to enquire the misutilisation of fund allocated to NDTV?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) The Government has released foreign exchange of US $ 20.56 lakh to M/s NDTV during 1988—96 for production of the programme. The World This Week'. The matter regarding the concessions granted to the programme 'The World This Week' produced by M|s. NDTV and its allied aspects including the utilisation of foreign exchange has been examined in entirety by the Public Accounts Committee. The Committee in its Report submitted to the Lok Sabha on 22nd April, 1997 have recommended that the whole matter should be entrusted to an appropriate investigative agency to be decided by the Cabinet Secretary for a thorough enquiry. Necessary action in this direction has been initiated.

BBC type Autonomy to Air and Doordarshan

2293. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to provide BBC type autonomy or All India Radio and Doordarshan with effect from 15th September, 1997;

(b) if so, the criteria laid down to exercise day to day administrative control on the functioning of the said Corporation;

(c) whether the employees would have an option to join the new Corporation; and

(d) if so, targeted date fixed to exercise such an option and what shall be the service conditions?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Government has notified commencement of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 providing for the autonomy of All India Radio and Doordarshan with effect from 15th September, 1997.

(b) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) would function independently under the provisions of the Prasad Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The procedure for exercising the option and service conditions of the employees shall be governed by sub-section 5 of Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990.

इलैक्ट्रानिक मीडिया संबंधी विज्ञापन नीति

2294. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**

श्री शमशेर सिंह सुरजेवाला:

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार इलैक्ट्रानिक मीडिया संबंधी अपनी नीति को और अधिक प्रतिस्पर्धी बनाने के लिए इसकी पुनरीक्षा करेगी ;